

DPMs Must Be Ready

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Sacramento—Governor Schwarzenegger and the Department of Public Health are asking all health professionals, including DPMs, to be prepared for emergency action. In the event of a pandemic, the big earthquake, a dam break or other Katrina-like disaster, you must be ready and set to go.

As shown in New Orleans, the number of physicians can be impacted inversely to the spike in patient loads. Others must be ready to step in beyond their normal scope.

It is widely recognized that no group is better trained and qualified to step up and augment MD and DO services than podiatric medical doctors.

Amazingly, the Good Samaritan statute enacted in 1980 [Business and Professions Code Section 2397(d)], actually prohibits DPMs from being good Samaritans. But no one in state government can understand that today. CPMA has agreed to sponsor legislation fixing the law books next year. Meanwhile, everyone knows DPMs will step in to do their bit even before that law change happens. You are fully expected to.

Sunset Sunsetting?

The Legislature has held no sunset review hearings this year, and has legislation afoot to terminate the process altogether. This is not necessarily good news because the quadrennial sunset review bills have been a good legislative vehicles for us.

New BPM Website

Please go online in November and check out BPM's new website. Governor Schwarzenegger, Agency Secretary Rosario Marin and Department of Consumer Affairs Director Carrie Lopez have authorized and overseen improvements that should make licensing board sites easier for everyone.

Thank you!



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